

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE ITEM 12: HUMAN RIGHTS
IN CHILE - MEETING WITH ALLANA AND SCHREIBER

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ON NOVEMBER 3 AD HOC WORKING GROUP
CHAIRMAN ALLANA AND HUMAN RIGHTS DIRECTOR SCHREIBER DIS-
CUSSED THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE AND RECOMMENDA-
TIONS FOR CONCRETE MEASURES TO BRING ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS,
INCLUDING: ESTABLISHMENT OF A UN TRUST FUND TO DEFEND
POLITICAL DETAINEES AND ASSIST THEIR FAMILIES; PRESSURE
(GOOD OFFICES) BY UN AGENCIES INVOLVED IN PROVIDING
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILE, AND MEMBER STATES HAVING
TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHILE; A CALL FOR LIFTING THE STATE
OF SIEGE, A CALL FOR REGULARIZING THE JUDICIARY; THE
STUDY AND PUBLICATION OF A LIST OF TORTURERS IN CHILE BY
THE SUBCOMMISSION; HIGHLIGHTING COUP D'ETATS AS THE
PRIMARY CAUSE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, IN THE CHILE
RESOLUTION OR A SEPARATE RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. ON NOVEMBER 3, AMBASSADOR BENNETT AND MISSION
OFFICER MET WITH AD HOC WORKING GROUP (WG)
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CHAIRMAN ALLANA AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

DIRECTOR SCHREIBER AT ALLANA'S REQUEST. ALLANA SAID HE WISHED TO SHARE WITH US HIS VIEWS ON THE WG REPORT. HE SAID THAT HE BELIEVES POLITICAL DETENTION, "LIQUIDATION," AND TORTURE STILL CONTINUE IN CHILE, ALTHOUGH METHODS MAY HAVE CHANGED. THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT IS PUTTING UP A FACADE, HE SAID, WHICH IS NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ACTUAL SITUATION. ALLANA CITED THE TESTIMONY OF VARIOUS "IMPECCABLE" WITNESSES, INCLUDING US CONGRESSMEN, TO BUTTRESS HIS STATEMENT.

3. ALLANA CONTINUED THAT WHILE THE THREE WG REPORTS HAVE HAD WIDE BACKING BY THE UNGA, THEY HAVE LED TO FEW POSITIVE RESULTS. SCHREIBER LATER STATED THAT, IN ADDITION TO PRESSURES DIRECTED AT THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF OTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS RESULTING FROM THE WG'S ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE SAVING OF LIVES RELEASE OF PRISONERS, SELF-ANALYSIS BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS COMMITTEE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THE SENSITIVITY OF THE GOC TO WHAT HAS BEEN SAID OR WRITTEN ABOUT IT BY THE WG.

4. ALLANA SAID THAT IT IS NOW TIME FOR CONCRETE MEASURES SUCH AS: CREATION OF A UN TRUST FUND FOR DEFENSE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES AND SUPPORT OF THEIR FAMILIES; A CALL FOR UN AGENCIES PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GOC, AND MEMBER STATES, WHICH HAVE TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHILE, (HERE HE MENTIONED THE US AS THE MOST IMPORTANT), TO USE THEIR "GOOD OFFICES" TO SEEK A CHANGE IN THE GOC'S ATTITUDE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE US HAS ALREADY BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD. (BENNETT INDICATED THAT OUR EFFORTS WERE CONTINUING). ALLANA SAID THAT IF SUCH PROPOSALS COULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON CHILE THEY WOULD HAVE A GREATER IMPACT. ALLANA EMPHASIZED THAT HE IS NOT SUGGESTING ANY CALL FOR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. HE ALSO SUPPORTED RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE STATE OF SIEGE BE LIFTED AND THAT THE RELEASE OF THE JUDICIARY BE NORMALIZED, WHICH COULD ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON CHILE.

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5. HE CONTINUED THAT THE SUBCOMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAS NOTED THAT TORTURE IS NOT A MONOPOLY OF THE GOC AND IS ON THE INCREASE, AND THAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO DETER TORTURE. TO THAT END, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE SUBCOMMISSION BE DIRECTED TO STUDY A LIST OF ALLEGED TORTURERS IN CHILE AND THAT IT THEN PUBLISH THE LIST. ALLANA DISCUSSED THE DESIRABILITY OF ADDRESSING THE GENERAL QUESTION

OF COUP D'ETATS IN THE CHILE RESOLUTION, SINCE THESE ARE A PRIMARY CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN MANY COUNTRIES. ALLANA SAID THAT THIS SUBJECT MIGHT BE TREATED IN A SEPARATE RESOLUTION.

6. REFERRING TO THE HEAVY WORK LOAD OF THE SUBCOMMISSION, ALLANA SAID IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF IT WERE TO REPORT ONLY ONCE, RATHER THAN TWICE, A YEAR TO THE GA, WITH AN UPDATE IF NECESSARY.

7. SCHREIBER SAID HE EXPECTED THE CHILE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO COME UP IN COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8. CITING THE UNIQUE POSITION THE US IS IN TO INFLUENCE THE GOC, ALLANA REQUESTED THAT THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE ON THE CHILE RESOLUTION AND SUPPORT THE WG REPORT. BOTH ALLANA AND SCHREIBER ACKNOWLEDGED THE USEFUL STEPS THE USG HAS TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE THE GOC TO IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS STANCE.

8. BENNETT PROMISED TO GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO ALLANA'S VIEWS, ASSURED HIM OF OUR CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN CHILE; ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE WG'S REPORTS HAVE BEEN INFLUENTIAL, BUT OBSERVED THAT THEY SOMETIMES HAD THE RESULT OF STIFFENING THE GOC POSITION; EXPRESSED REGRET THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO WORK OUR ARRANGEMENTS FOR A VISIT OF THE WG OR SOME OF ITS MEMBERS TO CHILE. HE COMMENTED THAT WE ALL RECOGNIZED THAT MANY THINGS ARE WRONG WITH THE SITUATION IN CHILE; IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE MORE ATTENTION PAID TO THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS AROUND TH WORLD HAVE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORDS AS BAD OR WORSE THAN THAT OF CHILE.

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